

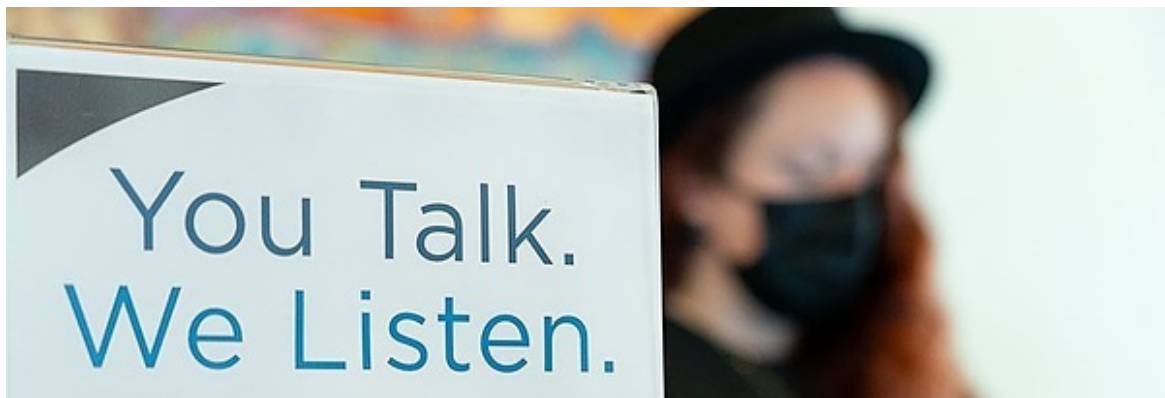


WHISTLER  
COMMUNITY SERVICES  
SOCIETY

APRIL 2022

SUPPORT US

## BETTER TOGETHER



### A Note From Our Operations Manager

As we await these April showers to bring May flowers, it's the perfect time to reflect and show gratitude for the beautiful land in which we live. The unceded territories of the Squamish Nation and Lil'wat Nation provide us with incredible nature, abundant wildlife, profound teachings and diverse perspectives. Last Friday, April 22, we celebrated the environment and continue to help raise awareness of the importance of long term ecological sustainability.



We are fortunate at Whistler Community Services Society to have this mission embedded in our work. Our thrift stores continue to divert hundreds of kilograms of unwanted items from the landfill every

day. Our team lovingly hand sorts these items, providing our community with affordable necessities through the Re-Use-It and Re-Build-It stores all while the proceeds fund our community programming. The WCSS food security team recovers 5,000kg of food from grocery stores and businesses in town each month which helps us feed our community.

Our stewardship does not stop at the environment. We continue to strive to lift the people of our mountain community up, meet everyone where they are at, and lend a listening ear in times of hardship.

May this spring not just bring renewal of the seasons but also a renewal of our outlook on life and a renewal of the commitment of how **TOGETHER**, we can build back better. Make everyday Earth Day.

With Gratitude,  
Lori

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## THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

This is National Volunteer Week, and on behalf of our entire organization we would like to send out a great big hug and ***thank you to all our volunteers here at WCSS***. From the Food Bank and Social Enterprises, to the Board of Directors and our Peer Educators - we couldn't do all the important work we do without your endless and tireless support. Thank you for all you do in working to lift up the community.



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## Overdose Prevention Site

Whistler Community Services Society is now a registered Overdose Prevention Site. Overdose Prevention Sites serve as a low-barrier point of introduction to health and social services for people with substance use challenges.

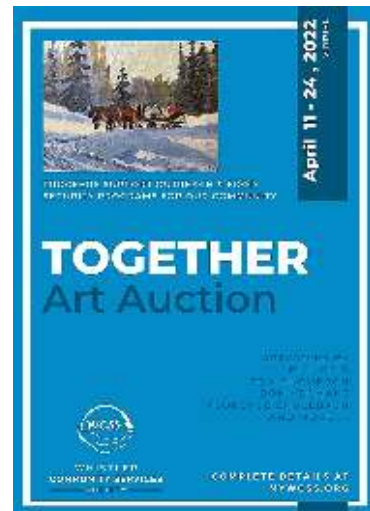
We can now provide:

1. Take home Naloxone kits and training
2. Harm reduction supplies including safer smoking, snorting and injection supplies
3. Fentanyl testing strips on site
4. Safe disposal options
5. Condoms
6. Facilitate referrals to mental health and substance use services

Contact Outreach For More Information

## Art Auction Roundup

We recently held our first ever online art auction in support of our community programming. A variety of artworks were curated by our staff with the help of local artist [Ron Denessen](#), all of which were donated to WCSS for the purpose of raising money for our services. We would like to thank everyone who took part in the auction by bidding, congratulations to everyone who had a winning bid!



## Earth Day

This past Friday was earth day, a day dedicated to raising awareness of the climate crisis and bring about behavioral change to protect the environment. Here at WCSS we aim to make a difference everyday. Our social enterprises play a big part in diverting items from the landfill, by accepting gently used quality donations and making them available for low cost to all residents.

We are thankful the many members of our team who took part in Pitch-In Day. We would also like to acknowledge AWARE and the RMOW for their

leadership roles in putting together another great day of taking care of Mother Earth.

[Learn More About Our Social Enterprises](#)

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## TOGETHER Outreach Fundraiser

Our annual TOGETHER Outreach fundraising campaign begins next week in conjunction with National Mental Health Week. Over the course of the next 6 weeks we will share stories and insights from our outreach team and the work they do to support our community. Emotional and mental health challenges are alive and well here in Whistler even as the pandemic eases into a more "normal" aspect of our lives. The pandemic brought to light the prevalence of degrading mental health among society, but it did not invent it. We will once again be asking you to support us as we support the community through our more than 25 outreach programs and services.



[More About Mental Health Week](#)



## Getting To Know Us

Taylor, our Finance Manager. No one knows more about the the ins and outs of the financial health of our organization than Taylor. Each and every day his meticulous detail to recording all things money wise is no easy task. But Taylor has a life outside of the walls of WCSS, and we sat down to chat about that recently:

***How long have you been with WCSS?*** 2.5 years

***What professional designations do you hold?***

CPA/CA. I articulated at Ernst and Young and have done a lot of work in the audit and financial space for Non

Profit Organizations.

***Outside of work, what sorts of things fill your time?*** I have a number of sport interests, my cat Coco that we recently adopted from WAG, and I am the treasurer on the board of Whistler Adaptive Sports Program.

***Tell us more about your favorite sports:*** I enjoy mountain biking, golf and softball. I recently took up tennis and love to play year round. I am also an avid F1 Fan, McLaren all the way!

***What is one of your favorite books?*** The Intelligent Investor, by Benjamin Graham. I have a natural interest in the world of investing.

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Whistler Community Services Society provides inclusive support to build a resilient community. Following our values of *Trust, Respect, Inclusion, Advocacy, and Collaboration*; we aim to work with the community to deliver low barrier services for healthy living.

Considering leaving an estate gift to Whistler Community Services Society?

Learn more on how to do so [here](#).

Thank You

Whistler Community Services Society is proudly accredited by



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**Our mailing address is:**

PO Box 900, Whistler BC, V0N1B0

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